

APPENDIX A - CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Serial No.: 09/788,047

Docket No.: 60586-300501

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Amended) A method of purifying crude acetic anhydride wherein treatment with an ozone-containing gas is conducted after distilling acetic anhydride containing diketenes.

6. (Currently amended) A method of producing polyoxytetramethylene glycol by ring-opening polymerization of tetrahydrofuran in the presence of the acetic anhydride and an acid catalyst, comprising:

purifying said acetic anhydride by treatment of an ozone-containing gas after distilling crude acetic anhydride containing ketenes diketenes;

conducting the ring-opening-polymerization with said purified acetic anhydride and said acid catalyst.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A method of purifying crude acetic anhydride as recited in claim 5 wherein said purified crude acetic anhydride, after performing a heat treatment of between 80 and 120 degrees Celsius for at least 5 hours, has a hue value of 10 ~~ALPHA~~ APHA units or less subsequent to a sulfuric acid coloring test.

9. (Previously Added) A method of purifying crude acetic anhydride as recited in claim 5 wherein said purified crude acetic anhydride has a diketene concentration below 2 ppm.

10. (Previously Added) A method of purifying crude acetic anhydride as recited in claim 8 wherein said purified crude acetic anhydride has a diketene concentration below 2 ppm.